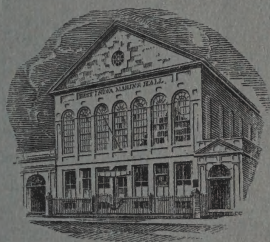


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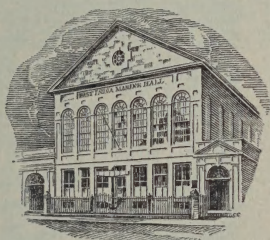
Report of the Director

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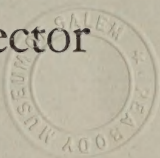
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Peabody Museum of Salem



Report of the Director

1950





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REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1950

Salem, 2 January 1951

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PEABODY MUSEUM OF SALEM:

ON 14 October 1949 the Peabody Museum of Salem celebrated the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its founding by the members of the Salem East India Marine Society. The details of that event are set forth in an article, *The One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration of the Peabody Museum of Salem*, by Walter Muir Whitehill, published in *The American Neptune* for January 1950 and also reprinted separately by the Museum. The history of the institution, first as the museum of the East India Marine Society, then as the Peabody Academy of Science and, since 1915, under its present name, was written by Mr. Whitehill and handsomely published under the title *The East India Marine Society and the Peabody Museum of Salem: A Sesquicentennial History*, in time to be given to the delegates from other institutions who attended the festivities.

Not since 1889 (when it was known as the Peabody Academy of Science) has the Peabody Museum issued a printed annual report. During the six months following the celebration, several apparently unrelated events made it seem desirable to renew that practice. At the annual meeting of the Trustees on 11 March 1950, Lawrence Waters Jenkins retired after half a century as an officer and twenty-five years as Assistant Director in Charge and Director of the institution. At the same meeting the writer was elected Director. At a later meeting of the Trustees in May it was voted to invite interested people, who might aid in carrying out the work of the Museum, to become Friends or Fellows of the institution. Thus with the beginning of a new administration, and with the organization of new groups who must be kept informed of what the Museum is doing, and what we hope to accomplish in the years to come, a printed report seems to be the obvious answer. Besides all

this the beginning of the second one hundred and fifty years of the Museum's history is a convenient time to put new customs into effect.

In the preceding paragraph I have mentioned Mr. Jenkins' association of fifty years with the Museum. It seems fitting in this first printed report after his retirement to pay tribute to that long and devoted service—a service that amounts to exactly one-third of the life of the institution itself. During that half century the material growth of the Museum has been considerable and the emphasis of its work has changed and stabilized. Much of this growth and change has been due to the unassuming hard work of Lawrence Waters Jenkins and his love for the place. When Mr. Jenkins came to the Museum in 1900 he found it primarily devoted to the study of the various branches of natural history. Ethnology was recognized but received little attention, and the department of maritime history was still scarcely more than an idea in the brain of John Robinson. Mr. Jenkins devoted himself assiduously to building up the ethnological collections; and the old material brought back by the Salem sea captains, from the Pacific and elsewhere, provided the soundest possible basis for developing a great collection of this kind. Through his friendship with Charles Goddard Weld, Stephen Willard Phillips, George Cameron Stone, and other men of means interested in similar subjects, he succeeded in obtaining some very remarkable collections for the Museum from the Pacific, Asia, and other non-European regions. Upon John Robinson's death in 1925 he added the Curatorship of the Marine Department to that of Ethnology, and also continued to administer the Museum. His energetic collecting of things maritime was as enthusiastic as his ethnological acquisitiveness, and during his curatorship the holdings in that department increased tenfold. Mr. Jenkins is probably the last of the great collectors in the early museum tradition, for material of sufficient quantity and quality to provide for this type of collecting has now gravitated into institutions and no longer exists in private hands. But I shall recall my own twenty years' association with him for another reason. He was kind and patient beyond the endurance of most men, for when I came to Salem in

1931 I was a green country kid, completely ignorant of a museum and its workings. He has continued through the years that same patience and understanding, and whatever I may know about running a museum has been largely learned under his tutelage and by observing his example. Few people realize that the Peabody Museum is, to a very great extent, what it is today because Lawrence W. Jenkins has given his life to the development of this institution in which he believed—greater love hath no man.

In the closing sentence of his history of the Museum, Walter Muir Whitehill wrote: 'The Peabody Museum of Salem is . . . still fulfilling both the purpose of the East India Marine Society to collect "natural and artificial curiosities" and the object of George Peabody's trust to promote science and useful knowledge in the county of Essex.' How well did we fulfill these purposes in 1950?

Financially we managed to stay some two hundred dollars within our allotted budget and also succeeded in finishing the year with a modest excess of income over expenditures. This is a very fine-looking statement but, unfortunately, it is not the whole story. It was necessary last year, as it will be again in 1951, to budget beyond our anticipated income from investments. If it were not for the fact that a few good friends of the institution were more generous this year than ever before we should have finished the year with a serious and worrisome deficit. The following people made cash contributions for special or general purposes in 1950: Mr. and Mrs. Willard C. Cousins, Mrs. Bowdoin B. Crowninshield, Mrs. William Crowninshield Endicott, Mr. Lawrence Waters Jenkins, Mr. Alvin Page Johnson, Mr. Charles Edey Fay, Mr. Ralph Lawson, Mr. Augustus Peabody Loring, Jr., Mrs. Augustus Peabody Loring, Jr., Mr. Stephen Phillips, Mr. Stephen Willard Phillips, Mr. Alfred Porter Putnam, Mr. Charles H. Taylor, Miss Mary Wheatland, Mrs. Richard Wheatland, Mr. Stephen Wheatland, and Mrs. Clara deWindt. Besides these individuals, contributions were made by the Essex County Ornithological Club and the Salem East India Marine Society. It can only be hoped that other friends will join this group and respond with equal

generosity in 1951 so that we may carry on our modest program without the additional worry of trying to keep our head above troubled financial waters.

The total number of visitors to the Museum this year was somewhat smaller than for 1949; 39,214 compared with 42,973 a year ago. Two circumstances account for the decrease. Our sesquicentennial celebration pulled in an extra number of people in 1949, and the coal shortage of last winter forced us to close from 27 February to 3 March, thereby losing the normal attendance for that period. One hundred and one different groups (school classes, scouts, clubs, etc.) visited the Museum and, whenever it was requested, a member of the staff talked to them on whatever subject they might be interested in.

There is a lamentable, though perhaps understandable and, I think, gradually diminishing, tendency in the museum world to judge the activity and growth of an institution by the quantity and size of its yearly accessions. If, perchance, a new wing has been built, that is the crowning glory. As well judge the success of a man by the number of suits, socks, and shirts he buys each year and the size and magnificence of his house. Such outward manifestations may point to a well conducted and useful existence for either an institution or an individual, or they may, as they frequently do, indicate something pointless and fuzzy-headed, outwardly elegant, but actually ill-conceived and shoddy. It is a great temptation for a museum to accept everything offered—good, bad, and indifferent. And, in the nature of things, most of the material will be in the last category. In an old institution, such as ours, the accumulation of specimens and collections over the years is so great that if everything offered were accepted indiscriminately and nothing was ever discarded the walls of the building would be bulging outward to the bursting point. In view of this our trustees, a few years ago, laid down a policy of not accepting inferior or useless material. As it is beyond our means to extend the physical plant in the foreseeable future, we must strive to become a museum of quality rather than quantity, and to restrict our activities to those fields which have been chosen or thrust upon us, and in which we are celebrated.

Despite these restrictions there were one hundred seventy-eight accessions containing over two thousand separate items in 1950. The breakdown is as follows: Maritime History, eighty-eight accessions, eight hundred forty-three items (many of these were manuscripts and photographs requiring relatively little room); Ethnology, fifty-eight accessions, six hundred ninety-eight objects; Natural History, fourteen accessions, seventeen specimens; Library, eighteen accessions, four hundred forty-eight volumes (in addition forty-three volumes were purchased and thirty-five periodicals subscribed to). Of the total number of accessions only five were purchases, five deposits, and three exchanges. All the remainder were gifts. This is not an inconsiderable number of items to catalogue and exhibit or store, and because of the restrictions already mentioned the average quality was high.

Joseph Roux was one of several hydrographers who, with other tradesmen, in the mid-eighteenth century, had their little shops along the quays of the port of Marseilles; he has long been famous among sailors and collectors of maritime books as the compiler of *Recueil des Principaux Plans des Ports et Rades de la Mer Méditerranée*, a useful collection of charts of which there are now two editions in our library. But he is even more famous as the father of Antoine Roux, and the ancestor of that dynasty of artists who painted ship portraits with a skill and knowledge that has seldom since been equalled and rarely, if ever, surpassed. Though justly noted as a cartographer, Joseph Roux was not known until recently to have been a painter. Some years ago Marion V. Brewington discovered in a second-hand store window in Philadelphia two small marine oils. He purchased them and found they were signed J. Roux, 1781. These are the only examples of the work of Joseph Roux known and Mr. Brewington has now given us one of them, which shows part of the action between H.M.S. *Serapis* and John Paul Jones' *Bon Homme Richard*. The Museum now possesses examples of the work of all the Roux family from Joseph, his son, Antoine, Sr., and his grandsons, Antoine, Jr., Frédéric, and François, and his granddaughter, Ursula, whose accomplished watercolors are nearly as great a rarity as her grand-

father's oils. We also own pictures by the mysterious Louis Roux, who painted in the same style, but whose relationship is not known.

Besides this important gift there were fifty-three other paintings and prints including several good ship portraits. The Misses Gladys and Emily Safford of Hartford, Connecticut, and York, Maine, gave us six oil paintings of ships commanded by their grandfather, Captain Samuel A. Lord of York. Captain Lord was one of those successful Maine coast captains who made many voyages to China in the last half of the nineteenth century. After years at sea he retired to his white frame house in York with the pictures of his ships and an oil portrait of himself painted in China which his granddaughters have also given us.

Some years ago Mrs. F. D. Elwell of Oakland, California, gave us a painting of the clipper ship *Sea Witch*. This year she sent us an excellent little Chinese oil painting of the topsail schooner *Mazeppa*. The *Mazeppa* had an interesting history. She was built in New York in 1842 for R. B. Forbes and A. A. Low for use in China waters and she proceeded to Canton in April of that year. She was a fast, small vessel of a type generally referred to by romanticists as an opium clipper and used for the local trade between India and China. She was later owned by Matheson and Jardine of Canton and sank in a typhoon off Swatow in September 1857.

Mrs. Annie Bailey Trowbridge of Fairhaven bequeathed to us a miniature and several other pictures of Captain Charles H. Rhoades of Salem, together with a large oil painting of the ship *Milwaukee* from which the unfortunate Captain Rhoades was washed overboard and lost on a voyage from New York to Havre in 1863.

All lovers of the Maine coast have been familiar with the late George S. Wasson's *Sailing Days on the Penobscot*, which was recently republished, and they have delighted in his less well-known short stories. Wasson's sketches of the Maine coast scene are as charming as his writings. We are now able to show his work along with that of other maritime artists, for his daughter-in-law, Mrs. David Wasson of Kittery, has given us

three of his sketch books. The books are filled with delightful pencil studies of coasters, lobstermen, and little coves and decaying piers innumerable.

None of our collections are more important historically than our holdings of manuscripts on maritime history. An unusual amount of this documentary primary source material came in this year. Mrs. John G. Waters gave us a large collection of journals, copies of consular reports, and letters of Richard Palmer Waters, the first U. S. Consul at Zanzibar. This, added to what we already possessed in the Michael Shepard and other papers, gives us an impressive quantity of documents relating to the Salem trade with Zanzibar and the American commercial and political relations with that little, but important, island off Africa's east coast.

Some years ago Miss Martha E. Driver of Marblehead gave us a porringer made from bronze of the pump of H.M.S. *Bounty*, together with a letter written by the descendants of the mutineers in appreciation of Captain William Driver's kindness in transporting them from Tahiti back to their old home on Pitcairn. This year Miss Driver died and left us by will a card tray made of the same historic bronze and Captain Driver's account in his own handwriting of the adventure, together with some of his letters to his nephew.

Several good logs and journals were added. Mrs. Thomas Sanders gave us log books of the brig *Esther* and the ship *Caroline* of Salem. Logs of the ship *Herald* of Boston, the brig *Dove* of Salem, and a journal kept on board the ship *Commodore Preble* of Baltimore, 1811-1812, were purchased. Hon. Foster Stearns of Exeter, New Hampshire, gave us the letters and business papers of his grandfather, Foster Waterman, a Boston merchant. William C. Waters of Salem gave us another lot of the miscellaneous shipping papers relating to William D. Waters and James Devereux which he has been gradually turning over to us over a period of years. Commander Philip M. Clark of Lexington gave a large collection of accounts and papers of Jacob Hiler, a ship carpenter of East Boston.

Our old friend, D. Foster Taylor of Wollaston, gave a scale model of a fishing schooner of that early twentieth century type

called an 'Indian Header.' Mr. Taylor built the model when he was working with Howard Chapelle taking the lines off fishing vessels and making a survey of those craft. The 'Indian Headers' were one of the handsomest types of fishermen ever built and this model is remarkable for its minute and accurate workmanship.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis B. Lothrop of Boston, in addition to their many other gifts, gave us several pieces of jewelry which belonged to members of the Crowninshield family, and Mrs. B. B. Crowninshield presented a portrait of Benjamin W. Crowninshield, a copy of an oil by Vanderlyn.

In 1942 we published Charles Edey Fay's *Mary Celeste: The Odyssey of an Abandoned Ship*. Mr. Fay unquestionably knows more about that maritime episode than any other living man. This year he turned over to us twelve of his voluminous scrapbooks of Celesteana—the results of his painstaking research over many years. He intends to give us the rest of his collection in the near future, but is making a detailed catalogue of all the material before sending it along. A copy of the catalogue will also be given to us when it is completed.

In 1930 Professor J. Stanley Gardiner of the University of Cambridge came to Boston to deliver the Lowell Institute lectures. While in New England he came to Salem to see the Peabody Museum's Pacific collections and to visit his friend, Stephen W. Phillips. Professor Gardiner had been on four important British expeditions to the Pacific and Indian Oceans between 1896 and 1908, and on the first expedition he lived in the northern Fiji Islands for several months. Although a zoologist and oceanographer, he amused himself during his residence in the Fijis by collecting examples of native household goods, weapons, and ornaments. He even succeeded in acquiring the private collection of native clubs that had belonged to Thakombau, along with that famous chief's cannibal fork. Thakombau is often called 'the greatest cannibal that ever lived' and we already possess one of his large, well-used molars! During the war I corresponded with Dr. Gardiner, at the suggestion of another of his friends, Dr. Thomas Barbour, our late trustee. It was Dr. Gardiner's wish that the collection of Fiji material he had

so lovingly accumulated should come to Salem, for his own University and the British Museum already had similar collections, and he had apparently developed a liking for this Museum on his visit. Negotiations were proceeding toward that end when Dr. Gardiner died. Later, they were resumed with his estate but there were many complications and it began to look as though the material might stay in England after all. By great good fortune a friend of the Museum's and of Mr. Phillips', Mr. Alfred P. Putnam, was going to England for an extended visit this past summer. He generously volunteered to take up negotiations with Mrs. Gardiner in regard to the Fijian specimens. So well did he succeed that Mr. Phillips was enabled to purchase the entire collection which he generously gave to the Museum. It arrived in Salem in September and was put on exhibition in East Hall a few weeks thereafter. Our old Fiji ethnological collection was, in all probability, the finest in the country; the addition of the J. Stanley Gardiner collection of one hundred thirty-two pieces gives us one of the great Fiji collections of the world.

John Stanley Gardiner was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1872, and educated at Cambridge University. He was eminent in his chosen fields and his researches on the biology of corals and the origin and development of coral reefs were notable. He was associated with his university from 1898 until his retirement because of ill health in 1937. He died 28 February 1946.

In 1853 when Commodore Matthew C. Perry opened the closed ports of feudal Japan to the western world he was presented by the Emperor with various and sundry gifts. At the time of our sesquicentennial celebration Mr. and Mrs. Francis B. Lothrop presented us with a beautiful lacquered box which was one of those Imperial gifts. A companion piece, a handsome lacquered writing box with the same history, has been given by the Lothrops this year.

The Honorable Raymond S. Wilkins presented us with a large and varied assortment of Japanese articles including, among other things, a clock, several handsome lacquered boxes, and a goodly assortment of silk clothing.

For the past ten or fifteen years, at first under the inspiration of Dr. Frank G. Speck, we have been building up our collections of Northeastern Indian material and, as time permitted, some modest research on the subject has been done. This has been a legitimate and profitable line of endeavor, for it developed that in our ancient collections we possessed some of the earliest examples in existence anywhere of the work of the Indians of this historically important region. Besides this there is now no other institution particularly interested, from an ethnological and historical point of view, in the Indians of this region. We have, therefore, been quietly gathering in material as it came to our attention. In the past few years we have obtained some of the fine old pieces from the estate of the late Mrs. Fanny Hardy Eckstorm; all the notes and manuscripts of the late William Brooks Cabot, that indefatigable canoeman and explorer who went into the interior of Labrador on many occasions, often alone, and lived and knew the Indians as few scholars have. Mr. Cabot was especially interested in Indian place names and we have all his manuscripts relating to that subject. When Frank Speck died last January, I was working with him on several problems relating particularly to the material culture and art of the various tribes in this area. As a result we have many of his notes and several of his incompleated studies which it was his desire that I finish. This year another of the specialists in these studies, E. Tappan Adney, died. Now all that generation of vigorous scholars is dead: Ganong, Eckstorm, Cooper, Cabot, Speck, and Adney—all people of great intellectual curiosity and enthusiasm.

This past autumn Wendell S. Hadlock was appointed literary executor to the estate of E. Tappan Adney. On news of Adney's death, Hadlock went down to Upper Woodstock, New Brunswick, and packed all of Adney's manuscripts and notes and shipped them to Salem. They amount to sixteen large cartons of valuable ethnological material; for Adney knew the Indians and he was an artist of great ability, albeit his writing left something to be desired. Nevertheless the good meat is there for students to consume as they are able to digest it. Besides all the manuscripts Hadlock also brought back four car-

tons of models of canoes, and canoe equipment, traps and catching devices, fishing equipment, examples of bark and roots and their uses, all minutely and accurately commented upon. This information could only be duplicated by years of work in the field interviewing Indians. It is even doubtful if much of this knowledge could be obtained at all at present, for Adney was living in the woods with the Malicites in the 1890's and obtained data that is now unknown to any living Indian.

During the great post-Darwin days of natural history, when the study of that subject was a popular and fashionable pastime, natural history societies flourished in nearly every up-and-coming town in eastern Massachusetts. Essex County, under the leadership of an inspiring and learned group of men, was in the forefront of the movement. While generally speaking the center of this movement was in Salem, the northern part of the county, the Andovers, Haverhill, and all that part lying along the fertile Merrimac River valley were a particularly happy hunting ground for the seekers of natural truth as manifested in the study of plant and animal life. I got in on just the tail end of the movement when it was dying a natural death. The Natural History Society in Andover was one of the most vigorous groups and was graced with an unusual number of active and pleasant people up to the time it disbanded in 1935. The old society in Lawrence had folded up, but I recall paying a visit to its museum, a one-room, dingy affair on the third floor of the Central Building in the heart of the business district. My one vivid recollection is of peering through the gloom, and a deep, deep gloom it was, into the stuffed, bold face of an enormous boa constrictor that wound its heavy coils around some sort of support and was coated with an incredible thickness of dust. That room of exhibits has now gone, I understand, no man knows whither.

At Brooks School in North Andover, where Oscar Root presides over a revival of the natural history interest in this northern region, a new bird never before taken in the county was collected. The bird, a Clay-colored Sparrow, has been given to us by Mr. Root. Not only is this the first specimen for the county but there are only three known records for the state.

It normally ranges only as far east as eastern Wyoming and Colorado.

Each winter the flight of alcids from their Arctic homeland descends on the coast of Essex County—the tiny Dovekies, and the Guillemots, Murres, and occasionally Puffins and Razor-billed Auks. One of the rarest of these alcids is the Atlantic Murre and we have never had one in its typical winter plumage as a resident of Essex County would see it. That gap has now been filled by the gift of such a specimen from Mrs. Donald Alexander of Nahant.

The mammal exhibit was the better for the replacement of the shabby muskrat with a fresh specimen given by Ralph Lawson, and for having James Miller give us a good Harbor seal to replace ours which looked vaguely like a caricature of a choleric old man up to his neck in a bag of oats.

Casts of eight new snake groups, made by George Marchand of Cornell University, immensely improved the reptile and amphibian collection. The new groups are the Hog-nosed, Black, Milk, Water, DeKay's, Red-bellied, Garter, and Copperhead snakes. Mr. Marchand, after he completes our series of county snakes, will then do all the amphibians of the county in a similar series. This will give us a collection which local people can use for identification and also make an attractive exhibit in themselves. These casts are immeasurably better than the old bleached-out snakes in alcohol or the bumpy old mounts, neither of which looked at all like the live animal. The new casts are made so skillfully that one is inclined to either pick up or step on the animals, depending on how one has been in the habit of treating such critters.

In recent years, because of the interest of a number of the fishermen in Gloucester and Rockport, several new fishes have been added to the county from the prolific waters off Cape Ann. This year a Filefish of a species not hitherto reported, and a Sea Poacher and adult Rudder fish not represented in the collections, were obtained from that source. It was found to be impractical to accept a fine specimen of an Electric Skate, as its eighty-one pounds weight and four feet of length made it inconvenient to house and the cost prohibitive to mount. How-

ever, Miss Snyder has taken a fine kodachrome, an enlargement of which hangs in the fish collection.

Since the deaths of Richards B. MacIntosh and Willis H. Ropes some ten or fifteen years ago there has been no great interest in, or knowledge of, the plants of the county. No one ever took the place of John Robinson who, with his knowledge and enthusiasm, built up our herbarium of Essex County plants and wrote his useful *Flora of Essex County*. It is rather surprising that this interest has died out, for Essex County has a long and venerable tradition in the study of botany, and has produced more than its share of both professional and amateur botanists. Long before the time of John Robinson, the Reverend Manasseh Cutler of Hamilton, who has been called 'the Father of American Botany,' published *An Account of Some Vegetable Productions Growing in this part of America Botanically Arranged* in 1765. Probably the most eminent botanist produced in the county was William Oakes of Danvers and Ipswich, who died in 1848, and who was an ancestor of the late Oakes Ames, another great botanist.

It has long been the hope of several of us that there might be a revival in the interest in plants of the region. No study is more pleasant or rewarding for the amateur, and there is still work the professional may do without getting into a biological atmosphere which is too rarified for the average layman. Miss Snyder, our present curator of Natural History, takes pleasure in working with the herbarium as she has the opportunity, and in collecting additional material for it. This year she found a new station of *Riccia fluitans* and Featherfoil (*Hottonia inflata*) both previously known from only one place in the county. She also discovered two species entirely new to the county: Alder buckthorn (*Rhamnus frangula*) in Lynnfield and the Foxtail Dalea (*Dalea alopecuroides*) on Plum Island. There were only two previous records from Massachusetts for the far-western Dalea.

To facilitate the study of local plants there has long been the need for someone to do over Robinson's *Flora* and bring it up to date. Now that the eighth edition of Gray's *Manual of Botany* is published the scientific names will be stabilized for

some years to come. So it is fortunate that at this time Dr. Stuart K. Harris, a native of Haverhill, professor of biology at Boston University and a competent botanist, has agreed to do a new book on Essex County plants for the Museum. The project is now underway.

The genial ghost of Edward S. Morse still raises its head, even after all the house cleaning that has been done in the past few years. In cleaning out a case in the Natural History office three of the Morse shell types and four co-types were discovered in a dark corner. They were added to the Morse shells already deposited at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, and Dr. M. E. Champion considers their discovery important enough to make them the subject of a paper.

Two of the books given to the library this year are of sufficient rarity to merit special mention. Mr. Alexander Crosby Brown gave us a copy of *Mr. Hardy Lee, His Yacht, being sketches on stone, by Chinks*, published in Boston by A. Williams & Co. in 1857. This is an album of humorous yachting lithographs that has long been the delight of discriminating yachtsmen. Who 'Chinks' was remained a mystery until recently when he was finally identified as Dr. Charles Ellery Stedman of Boston. The Club of Odd Volumes has recently issued a reprint of this rare volume with an introduction by Mr. Brown.

Our library has long been rich in books on ornithology containing colored plates. These range in importance all the way from the Audubon elephant folio down to the latest ten-cent-store pocket guide. Dr. Elisabeth Deichmann of Beverly, who is an eminent invertebrate zoologist at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, gave us a copy of a rare old ornithology, *Danmarks Fugle*, with its separate volume of illustrations, *Icones Ornithologiae Scandinavicae*, by N. Kjaerbolling, published in Copenhagen in 1852. This is one of only three known copies of this work on this side of the Atlantic. It contains many fine old colored lithographs of northern European birds, a number of which visit Essex County, particularly during the winter months.

Twenty special exhibitions of one kind or another were put

on during the year. Three of these arranged by Mr. Copeland and Mr. Williams: a selection from the J. Francis Driscoll collection of sheet music, oil paintings by Frank Sitterley of early steamships with sails, and Currier and Ives small folio prints of early steamships, were for the especial benefit of the members of the Steamship Historical Society of America which held its annual meeting at the Museum on 26 August. An exhibition of large lithographs of coastwise steamers was shown in the entrance corridor during April and lithographs and photographs showing the development of the French Line from 1864 to 1950 were hung there in the late autumn. The three figure-heads lent by Mr. and Mrs. Francis B. Lothrop have been installed in John Robinson Hall.

In the spring Mr. Wendell S. Hadlock and Miss Ruth R. Ropes arranged an exhibition of archaeological material from Essex County in the rail cases of East Hall. Ever since we removed the archaeological collection from exhibition in East India Marine Hall, when that room was restored, there have been constant inquiries to see it. So now the people who find stone implements and arrowheads in their fields or gardens can once more compare their finds with our specimens without having to be taken down to the storage rooms. During the winter an exhibition of leather coats of various American Indian tribes was shown in the entrance corridor and created considerable interest, particularly among the local leather people who were curious about aboriginal methods of curing leather. The J. Stanley Gardiner collection of Fijian antiquities, already mentioned, was installed in October in nine cases in East Hall adjacent to our older Fijian material.

Miss Snyder had an exhibition of plates of local wild flowers in the entrance corridor in May and June. In the natural history rooms, besides changing the large folio Audubon plates four times during the year, she had special exhibitions on bird migration, conservation, changes in Massachusetts bird life from colonial days to the present, and animals of the seashore.

In June we began a series, to continue indefinitely, of 'Exhibits of the Month.' These were shown in the first case on the right-hand side inside the front door. The first was a remark-

able West African wood carving of a European sailor of the early nineteenth century. It is an amusing figure of a solemn, seated individual holding a glass in one hand and a bottle in the other. This was followed in July by the white-faced hornet and its singular nest. In August the half-model of the ketch *Eliza*, probably the earliest dated model of its kind, was in the spotlight. September saw two emerald green quetzals from the old East India Marine Society collections. In October Buka Island paddles from the little island of that name in the Solomon group were a link between ethnological studies and maritime history, for these were the paddles most favored by New England whalers for sneaking up on a whale after the oars were shipped. It is said that these were the quietest paddles that could be obtained and they were often kept with the ship's stores and used for whaling in the Atlantic as well as in the Pacific—an example of a primitive man's product being best suited for a white man's especial need. In November a picture of Captain William Driver and the souvenirs of his adventures moving the survivors of the Pitcairn Islanders from Tahiti back to Pitcairn were shown. The final exhibit of the month, in December, was a black tanned leather baby carrier from the eastern Great Lakes region elaborately decorated with porcupine quills. It is said that this is the finest example of Eastern American Indian quill work in existence.

In April we lent to The Corcoran Gallery of Art four paintings—a Chinese oil of Whampoa Anchorage, the Confederate cruiser *Nashville* burning the ship *Harvey Birch* by D. McFarland, a whaling scene showing the bark *Richard* and the ship *Julian* by Benjamin West and the letter of marque ship *Bethel* of Boston. (This last was deposited with us by the Massachusetts Historical Society some years ago.) The four paintings were hung in the exhibition called 'American Processional—1492 to 1900' which lasted until December and commemorated the sesquicentennial of the establishment of the federal government at Washington. During late September and early October a large exhibition of primitive art from all over the world was held in the new exhibition room of the Charles Hayden Memorial Library at Massachusetts Institute of Technol-

ogy. Most of the material, eighty-five pieces, came from our collections. Small lots of material were lent the Salem and Topsfield public libraries, and there were many small loans to church groups, garden clubs, and schools.

Our principal publication this year, and our first maritime book in some years, was *Under Sail and In Port in the Glorious 1850's*. It is a journal of a sixteen-year-old girl, Charlotte Augusta Page, who was in 1852 sent on a sea voyage for her health in the ship *George Washington* under the command of a friend of her family, Captain Josiah Cummings. The journal is edited by her son, Mr. Alvin Page Johnson of Swampscott, who also generously assisted in publishing the book. It was a perfectly normal voyage, but Walter Muir Whitehill says of the journal entries in his foreword to the book: 'Although primarily significant as an account of domestic life on board ship a century ago, they are not without interest for the light that they throw upon the typical voyages which were the solid foundation of the American trade of the period. One hears much of fast ships, record breaking runs, voyages to unusually remote ports, storms and disasters, but little of the many unspectacular passages by which honest and able New Englanders—such as Captain Cummings—pursued the even tenor of their commercial occupations upon the seas.'

At odd times during the year I completed the Easter Island and Manihiki sections, and nearly finished the section on the Society Islands, for another in our series of Polynesian catalogues.

Twenty lectures were given by the Director and Curators during the year to outside groups and organizations. In addition, Miss Snyder gave a course in the spring on bird identification, consisting of six lectures followed by a field trip. She also conducted a leader's training course for nature counsellors of day camps in Massachusetts at Camp Rotary in Wenham, two all-day sessions for campers at the Lynn Camp Fire Girls' Camp, and a nature day for the Gloucester Y.M.C.A. Boys' Camp.

Miss Snyder continued teaching the Audubon Society courses in the county under the Museum's coöperative arrange-

ment with that society. The great advantage of this arrangement between the two organizations is apparent in the wealth of material available in the Museum for illustrating the lessons in the classrooms, as well as the fine library to aid in preparing the subjects taught.

Members of the staff attended a great many meetings of various professional societies and groups. In May and June Mr. Hadlock conducted preliminary excavations at the site of Champlain's village on St. Croix Island for the National Parks. Many of the house foundations were unearthed and the cemetery was located where some thirty-seven of the people who died from scurvy during the winter of 1604-1605 were buried. In July Mr. Hadlock completed the excavations at Wasp Island in the Union River at Ellsworth Falls, Maine. This work has been a coöperative project for three years of the Robert Abbe Museum of Bar Harbor, Maine, and the R. S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology at Andover, Massachusetts. In August Mr. Hadlock taught a summer school course in archaeological techniques and field methods at the Willimantic State Teachers College, Willimantic, Connecticut.

In April Miss Snyder took her vacation and used it for a three-weeks field trip to Texas to study the birds there. In May she made a field trip to Nantucket and in July one to the Presidential Range in New Hampshire, each of several days duration. Also in July she spent a weekend studying the nesting colony of Leach's Petrels on Little Duck Island, Maine. In October she journeyed to Hawk Mountain, Pennsylvania, to see the fall hawk migration and made a two-day field trip to Cape Cod.

More and more it seems that graduate students from Harvard and other universities in the Boston region are using our resources and facilities. There were ten graduate students who worked with our maritime documents, one each from Tufts, Boston College, The University of California, and Clark, and the rest from Harvard. A Harvard student in anthropology worked on the history and ethnology of Fortuna and Uvea (Wallis and Howe Islands). Two other Harvard students in anthropology have been particularly helpful to us and we have

been advising them in their respective projects. Last year Mr. William Martin spent the summer at Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia, doing ethnological field work with the Micmac Indians. A number of informants that I had met there the previous year were useful to him. He now plans to spend a year with a Montagnais group in southern Labrador and we have been aiding him to obtain grants for his studies. Mr. Donald Marshall, another graduate student, is specializing in Polynesia and so has found our collections and library invaluable to him. If the money can be raised from foundations we have decided to sponsor him on a one-man expedition to the South Seas. He plans to spend six months in New Zealand working with anthropologists at the University of New Zealand and about a year in a native village on one of the Cook Islands.

Many mature scholars visited us during the year. Dr. Marius Barbeau of the National Museum of Canada spent some two and a half weeks working on journals of the northwest coast, carvings from that region, and sailors' scrimshaw work. Dr. Wilson Wallis of the University of Minnesota studied our Micmac Indian collections, and Miss Mary C. Wheelwright came to see our northeastern Indian material. Mr. Martin A. Brunor worked on the collections from the Society, Cook, and Austral Islands, and by his knowledge of that material he has aided me greatly in the catalogue I am preparing, as he has had nearly twenty years' residence in those islands.

All new material received during the year has been catalogued and recorded. In addition the following projects have been completed. Colonel George L. Smith completed the cataloguing and carding of that portion of our Gilbert Islands collection that is on exhibition. He has also made a start on the arrangement of our collections of charts and plans in the new room and cases prepared for them in the basement of East India Marine Hall, and he has catalogued the Jackson negatives of yachts. All of our photograph negatives that were formerly in the vault in the Marine Room have been moved to the metal cases in the library. This gets all of our negative collection together and frees the vault for the documents and manuscripts relating to the history of the Museum and the East India Ma-

rine Society. Mr. Hadlock and Miss Ropes completed a card catalogue of all the North American Indian material on exhibition and made a start toward that part of the collection in storage. Mr. Osgood Williams has taken charge of the steamship collection and has compiled an index of steamship lines and, through his personal acquaintance in steamship circles, he has acquired many photographs which materially aid in bringing our photograph file of steamships up to date. Mr. Williams has also started cataloguing the F. B. C. Bradlee collection of prints and paintings which have never been entered in the Museum catalogue though they came in in 1928. Miss Ruth Ropes has taken charge of the photograph file of sailing ships and has continued her work on the Salem ship registers, extracting the temporary registers that were not printed when the permanent ones were and also copying the tonnages and dimensions that were not included at the time of publication. Before leaving us in June, Miss Barbara Connolly had made an excellent start on a survey of modern yachts including an index of all class boats that have been built and their specifications. In connection with our log books and journals, Mr. Charles H. P. Copeland has started two new indexes, one of people and the other of places. It was necessary for Mr. Copeland to give a lot of time to the many people with maritime inquiries who sought out the Museum. There were more of these as well as more marine correspondence than in any year since before the war.

The Director's office was cleaned and painted from ceiling to floor—the first fresh paint it had seen since the building was built in 1907. New cases for charts were built in a room fixed up for that purpose at the foot of the stairs to East India Marine Hall cellar, and the stairway itself was built over to make a clean, rather handsome entrance to the plan and chart room and, indirectly, to the half-model collection. During the summer months the natural history storage room in the same cellar was thoroughly cleaned and painted and several new storage cases were built. The so-called 'box room' in Weld Hall cellar was emptied and new storage cases for ethnological material were built therein. Nine other new ethnological storage cases were built in various parts of Weld Hall cellar.

In the early fall Dr. Frederic Douglas and two of his staff from the Denver Museum of Art came and identified all of our Plains Indian ethnological material as to tribal origin, and cleaned several of our unique pieces. Douglas is the foremost expert in the country in the cleaning of ethnological specimens and has also done more than any other man to stimulate the pleasing exhibition of material of that type. Several cases and their contents in the Marine Room and John Robinson Hall were also cleaned. Miss Barbara Hayden cleaned all the herbarium sheets in the natural history office.

We lost two Trustees and one member of our honorary staff by death during the year. On 3 January 1950 Lawrence Coolidge died. He was elected a Trustee in 1937 and served the Museum as President from 1939 to 1942 when he was ordered to active duty in the United States Naval Reserve. He was deeply interested in the well-being of the Museum, especially the finances in which he was expert and wise. Rosamond Bowditch Loring, the first woman to serve as a Trustee of the Peabody Museum, died on 17 September. She was made Honorary Curator of Exhibitions in 1942 and a Trustee in 1946. During the war years she ably filled in the places of those members of the staff absent on military service. She was dearly loved and the Museum published the resolution passed in her memory at the meeting of the Trustees on 12 December 1950. Frank G. Speck died 6 January 1950, three days after Lawrence Coolidge. He was elected Honorary Curator of American Indian Ethnology in 1946 but for many years previously he had been interested in building up our eastern Indian collections, particularly in the field of primitive art in which he was especially interested. Spending his summers at Gloucester, he did considerable research at the Museum and benefited the institution greatly thereby. He was also instrumental in getting other people and students interested in the Museum.

Mr. Stephen Phillips and Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield were elected to the board of Trustees to fill the two vacancies caused by death. Mr. John Robinson, a Trustee of the Museum since 1937, resigned and Mr. Walter Muir Whitehill was elected to take his place. While Mr. Robinson—a son of our

late Treasurer and Trustee of the same name—lived on Summer Street in Salem he was one of our most active Trustees. He was a member of the Museum Committee for many years before he moved to South Bristol, Maine. Living at that distance he could no longer easily attend meetings and, though still very much interested in the institution, he felt that he should make room on the board for someone closer at hand. In appreciation of his interest in things nautical and his obtaining material for us, he was elected Honorary Curator of Maritime History.

There have been several changes in the staff. Mr. Wendell S. Hadlock who has worked for us for several winters as an assistant was appointed Administrative Assistant and Assistant Curator of Ethnology on an eight months basis. Miss Barbara Connolly, my efficient secretary for three years, resigned in June and her place was filled by Mrs. Priscilla W. Ratley, who is equally efficient. Also in June Mr. Osgood Williams volunteered to spend two days a week on our steamship photograph files. He soon became so interested that he has worked practically full time. His knowledge of trans-Atlantic lines and his enthusiasm for the subject has made him an invaluable help and, too, he is a most pleasant person to have around the office. He has been elected Honorary Curator of Steamship History. To all the staff, both paid and honorary, I am thankful for their complete coöperation and the manner in which they have carried out their respective duties. Without their willing and helpful support it would have been impossible to accomplish all that has been done this year. I am deeply grateful to each and every one.

ERNEST STANLEY DODGE
Director

Phillips Library



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